GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:215
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2000
POWERS TO AWB
CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of cruelty to animals are increasing in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Animal Welfare Board is powerless to check it;

(c) whether the Government propose to vest more powers in the Board; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a) There is an increase in the reporting of instances of cruelty to animals in the country during recent years.

(b) According to the provisions of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, the powers to take any action against the persons guilty of any offence under the Act vest mainly in the police officials. Societies for Prevention of Cruelty to Animalsand the persons authorised by the State Governments are empowered to take action against the persons violating the provisions of the Act.

(c)&(d) Yes Sir. The Government proposes to amend various provisions of the existing Act and make new provisions in the Act to empower the Board to take effective steps against the persons indulging in cruelties to animals.